

Production No. 9F10

The Simpsons

"MARGE VS. THE MONORAIL"

Written by
Conan O'Brien

Created by
Matt Groening

Developed by
James L. Brooks
Matt Groening
Sam Simon

This script is not for publication or reproduction. No one is authorized to dispose of same. If lost or destroyed, please notify Script Department.

THE WRITING CREDITS MAY NOT BE FINAL AND SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR PUBLICITY OR ADVERTISING PURPOSES WITHOUT FIRST CHECKING WITH TELEVISION LEGAL DEPARTMENT.

Return to Script Department
20TH CENTURY FOX TELEVISION
10201 W. Pico Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90035

REVISED TABLE DRAFT

Date 6/12/92

"MARGE VS. THE MONORAIL"

Cast List

HOMER.....DAN CASTELLANETA
MARGE.....JULIE KAVNER
BART.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
LISA.....YEARDLEY SMITH
GRAMPA.....DAN CASTELLANETA
PATTY.....JULIE KAVNER
SELMA.....JULIE KAVNER
LYLE LANLEY.....PHIL HARTMAN
GEORGE TAKEI.....HIMSELF
KRUSTY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
BURNS.....HARRY SHEARER
SMITHERS.....HARRY SHEARER
LENNY.....HARRY SHEARER
CARL.....HANK AZARIA
MISS HOOVER.....MAGGIE ROSWELL
BARNEY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
JAILBIRD.....HANK AZARIA
MAYOR QUIMBY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
APU.....HANK AZARIA
REV. LOVEJOY.....HARRY SHEARER
CHIEF WIGGUM.....HANK AZARIA
MAUDE FLANDERS.....MAGGIE ROSWELL
NED FLANDERS.....HARRY SHEARER

PAGE 2.

RALPH.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
OTTO.....HARRY SHEARER
KENT BROCKMAN.....HARRY SHEARER
DR. HIBBERT.....HARRY SHEARER
AGENT.....HANK AZARIA
JUDGE.....PHIL HARTMAN
WARRIOR.....PHIL HARTMAN
BRITISH ANNOUNCER.....DAN CASTELLANETA
TOWN/CROWD.....EVERYONE
CHUCK.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
FAT GUY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
REPORTER.....DAN CASTELLANETA
WAITRESS.....MAGGIE ROSWELL
SEBASTIAN KOBBER.....HANK AZARIA
WOMAN WITH BABY.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
KRUSTY BABY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
LURLEEN LUMPKIN.....DORIS GRAU
MAN.....HANK AZARIA
CHILDREN.....NANCY/DAN
ENGINEER #1.....HANK AZARIA
ENGINEER #2.....DAN CASTELLANETA
CAPTAIN.....HANK AZARIA
HAVERBROOK MAN.....DAN CASTELLANETA
OFFICER.....DAN CASTELLANETA
WOMAN (V.O.).....MAGGIE ROSWELL
JASPER.....HARRY SHEARER

PAGE 3.

SEA CAPTAIN.....HANK AZARIA

PRINCIPAL SKINNER.....HARRY SHEARER

SCOTT CHRISTIAN.....DAN CASTELLANETA

SECRETARY.....MAGGIE ROSWELL

CAB DRIVER.....HANK AZARIA

BART ANCHOR.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT

"MARGE VS. THE MONORAIL"

Written by

Conan O'Brien

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. NUCLEAR POWER PLANT - AFTERNOON

HOMER is working at his station.

INSERT:

The FOREMAN pulls the FACTORY WHISTLE.

BACK TO SCENE:

HOMER

Yabba dabba doo!

He jumps out of his chair, slides down a curved bannister, and sails through a doorway towards his car, just like Fred Flintstone. **CRASHING** through the window on the driver's side, Homer lands in his seat, guns the engine, and **ROARS** out of the parking lot.

HOMER (CONT'D)

(SINGING) "Simpson, Homer Simpson /
He's a little bit like you and me /
From the town of Springfield / He
does modern things like watch TV /
Every-body thinks that Homer's great
/ And he -- is really, really
great... (ANNOYED GRUNT)

PULL BACK to reveal Homer has **CRASHED** into the back of a police car.

INT. OTHER PART OF NUCLEAR PLANT - CONTINUOUS

LENNY and CARL are **WELDING** the top on a leaky drum labelled "TOXIC WASTE - DO NOT EAT".

Scene 1

Scene!
cont

CARL

Y'know, I hear they dump these drums
in an abandoned chalk mine and cover
'em with cement.

LENNY

I hear they're sending 'em to one of
those southern states where the
governor's a crook.

CARL

Either way I'm sleepin' good tonight!

They **HIGH FIVE** each other and leave. BURNS and SMITHERS
enter with a dolly.

SMITHERS

Well, sir, where shall we dump this
batch of poisonous waste?

BURNS

Let's see -- the playground's so
noisy -- let's try the park!

INT. SPRINGFIELD PARK - NIGHT

Burns and Smithers are stuffing the drum into a hollow tree
trunk as YOUNG LOVERS and a DOGWALKER pass.

SMITHERS

I think it's full, sir.

BURNS

That's ridiculous, the last tree held
nine drums.

*Scene 1
cont*

The camera PANS to the next tree. It is crammed full of leaking drums. A weird limb, part tree, part tentacle, is growing out of the side. On another limb is a giant SQUIRREL with glowing eyes. It uses its laser eyes to SHOOT down an acorn, catching it in its mouth. Suddenly, floodlights illuminate the area and SEVERAL MEN carrying badges surround Burns and Smithers.

AGENT

(ROBERT STACK VOICE) Agent Malone,
Environmental Protection Agency.
Some Boy Scouts stumbled on your
little game of "hide the ooze."

BURNS

Boy Scouts, eh? (SINISTER) I'd like
to meet these lads.

AGENT

No dice, Burns, they've got new names
and faces.

INT. SPRINGFIELD COUNTY COURTHOUSE - DAY

Scene 2

Burns is heavily manacled a la Hannibal Lecter, while Smithers stands beside him.

JUDGE

Mr. Burns, in light of your
unbelievable contempt for human life,
this court fines you three million
dollars.

BURNS

Smithers, my wallet's in my right
front pocket.

Smithers removes Burns' wallet, takes out a giant wad of bills, and hands it to the judge.

Scene 2
cont

BURNS (CONT'D)

Oh, and I'll take that statue of
Justice out front.

Smithers hands the judge more money.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

The SIMPSONS are in the kitchen. Homer is reading a newspaper with the giant headline, "Burns Pays City 3 Mil!"

HOMER

Heh-heh. I like it when bad things
happen to rich people. It's much
better than when good things happen
to poor people.

Marge looks at the newspaper.

MARGE

There's going to be a town meeting to
decide how to spend the money.

LISA

What a boon it could be for our
underfunded public schools.

LISA'S FANTASY

Lisa sits in class with other KIDS.

MISS HOOVER

Children, it's time for your history
lesson. Put on your virtual reality
helmets.

Lisa and the others put on high-tech helmets.

Scene 2
Cont

LISA'S POV

Static clears away to reveal a Mongolian battlefield with a smiling BEARDED WARRIOR.

WARRIOR

(TROY McCLURE VOICE) Hello, Lisa.

I'm Genghis Khan. Join my Mongol
horde as we destroy the civilized
world. (WINKS)

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM

Lisa is dreamy-eyed. Bart is disgusted.

BART

C'mon, Lis. We both know how this
money should, nay, must be spent.

BART'S FANTASY

SPRINGFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

is being attacked by GIANT MECHANICAL ANTS. Bart is
controlling the ants with a small control box.

PRINCIPAL SKINNER

Bart, we'll do anything you want.
Just call off your giant mechanical
ants!

BART

(CHUCKLES)

BACK TO SCENE

MARGE

Well, I think this town should spend
the money on something that will last
after all of us are gone.

- Scene 3

Scene 3
word

HOMER

Like a stone pizza?

MARGE

No.

INT. SPRINGFIELD TOWN HALL

The meeting hall is packed with anxious TOWNSPEOPLE, including the Simpsons.

MARGE

It looks like everyone in Springfield
showed up for this.

EXT. SPRINGFIELD STREET - NIGHT

JAILBIRD and a couple of his BUDDIES are looting several deserted homes.

JAILBIRD

Could this town be any stupider?

INT. SPRINGFIELD TOWN HALL - CONTINUOUS

- Scene 4

MAYOR QUIMBY BANGS his gavel.

QUIMBY

Ordah! Please rise for the Pledge of
Allegiance.

HOMER

Get to the money!

QUIMBY

In a moment. First, let's review the
minutes from our last meeting...

GRAMPA/LOVEJOY/APU

Get to the money!

Scene 4
cont.

QUIMBY

Very well. (POUNDS GAVEL) We will
now hear suggestions for the
disbursement of the two million
dollars.

LISA

Don't you mean three million dollars?

QUIMBY

(COVERING) Of course. How silly of
me.

MAUDE FLANDERS stands.

MAUDE FLANDERS

Excuse me, if we just divide up the
money equally, every citizen will get
four thousand dollars.

HOMER

Bo-ring! I move we cut cards for it.

Winner takes all.

Everyone **WHOOPS** it up. Homer holds up a deck of cards and
cuts it and reads the card.

HOMER (CONT'D)

(MOANS) Two? I was just practicing.

Burns stands up wearing a fake moustache. Smithers,
dressed normally, sits next to him.

- Scene 5

BURNS

Hello. My name is Mr. Snrub, and I
come from... someplace far away. (TO
SELF) Yes, that'll do. Anyway, I
say we invest that money back in the
nuclear plant.

SMITHERS

(TO THE PEOPLE AROUND HIM) I like
the way Snrub thinks.

Everyone stares at them. A nervous Smithers **SHOOTS** a
grappling hook up to the ceiling. Burns wraps his arms
around Smithers' neck. They rise to the ceiling out of the
angry CROWD. APU stands.

APU

Pardon me, but I would like to see
this money spent on more police
officers. I have been shot eight
times this year, and as a result I
almost missed work.

WIGGUM

(UNDER HIS BREATH) Crybaby.

Marge stands up, takes some index cards out of her purse
and consults them during her speech.

MARGE

My name is Marge Simpson and I have
an idea. It may sound a little
boring at first...

Scene 5
cont.

QUIMBY

I'm sorry, the city charter states
that all ideas must be glamorous and
exciting.

MARGE

Oh.

Homer jumps up.

HOMER

Now wait a minute. This is my wife
and if she's got an idea you should
at least nod your head and say you'll
think about it. It works, I tell
you.

— Scene 6

MARGE

Well, most of you have probably
noticed the terrible condition Main
Street is in.

ANGLE - SPRINGFIELD - MAIN STREET

The pavement is cracked and pitted, with weeds pushing
their way through the asphalt.

MARGE (O.S.)

Many of us have destroyed it by
leaving winter chains on our tires
and carrying too much weight.

Homer speeds by with snow-chains on his tires and a piano
strapped to his roof. Chunks of pavement **SHOOT** out from
his rear wheels.

HOMER

Woo-hoo, look at that pavement fly!

Scene 6
cont.

ANGLE - OTTO DRIVING THE SCHOOL BUS

It BUMPS along as it drives.

MARGE (O.S.)

And those potholes are becoming a
real nuisance.

Otto's bus suddenly disappears from view down a giant
pothole. It does not reappear.

OTTO (O.S.)

Okay, kids. We hide the beer, then
we get help.

BACK TO SCENE

MARGE

(READING) "So, in conclusion, let's
turn this 'eyesore' into 'a sight for
sore eyes.'"

The crowd is silent.

MARGE (CONT'D)

My eight year old thought of that.

The crowd "AWS" and AD LIBS "Isn't that cute?", etc. They
APPLAUD. An angry Grampa stands.

GRAMPA

Now hold on just one minute. Sure,
we could fix up Main Street. We
could put all our eggs in one
basket...

Everyone CHEERS and APPLAUDS.

Scene 6
cont

GRAMPA (CONT'D)

Shut up! I wasn't done yet. I'm
just saying we could blow all the
money on a stupid little street,
but..

Everyone **CHEERS** again. Some people lift Grampa on their
shoulders.

GRAMPA (CONT'D)

(SAD) I ain't fer it, I'm agin' it.

CROWD

Main Street! Main Street! Main
Street!

QUIMBY

All those in favor of re-building
Main Street, please...

- Scene 7

LYLE LANLEY, a fast-talking salesman in a seersucker suit
and straw boater, **WHISTLES** from the back of the room. He's
leaning against a large sample case and has his hat cocked
over one eye.

LANLEY

(FOLKSY) You know, a town with
money's a little like the mule with a
spinning wheel. No one knows how he
got it and danged if he knows how to
use it!

The townspeople **CHUCKLE**. Homer looks around puzzled, sees
people laughing, and starts to **LAUGH**.

HOMER

Heh-heh... mule.

*Scene 7
cont*

LANLEY

The name's Lanley. Lyle Lanley. And
I come before you good people tonight
with an idea. Probably the
greatest... (FROWNS) Ah, it's not
for you.

Lanley starts to leave.

BART

C'mon, what is it?

LANLEY

Sorry, son. I just realized it's a
little ahead of it's time. It's more
of a "Shelbyville" idea.

QUIMBY

Now wait just a minute. We're twice
as smart as the people of
Shelbyville. Just tell us your idea
and we'll vote for it.

LANLEY

All right. I tell you what I'll do.
I'll show you my idea.

Lanley runs over to a table covered with a cloth.

LANLEY (CONT'D)

I give you the Springfield Monorail!

He unveils a working model of the monorail. The
townspeople **GASP** as it **ZIPS** around the track. Lanley jumps
up on a chair.

Scene 8

LANLEY (CONT'D)

I've sold monorails to Brockway,
Ogdenville, and North Haverbrook and,
by gum, it put them on the map!

He holds up a map of the United States. The names of those towns have been crudely written in.

LANLEY (CONT'D)

(FAST PATTERN) Well, sir, there's
nothing on earth like a genuine,
bona-fide, electrified, six-car
monorail. What'd I say?

FLANDERS

Monorail.

LANLEY

What's it called?

PATTY & SELMA

Monorail!

LANLEY

That's right, monorail!

The townspeople start to CHANT "MONORAIL" to an upbeat rhythm as Lanley leaps onto the stage.

MISS HOOVER

I hear those things are awfully loud.

LANLEY

It glides as softly as a cloud.

APU

Is there a chance the track could
bend?

Scene 8
cont

LANLEY

Not on your life, my Hindu friend.

BARNEY

What about us lowly slobs?

LANLEY

You'll be given cushy jobs.

GRAMPA

Were you sent here by the devil?

LANLEY

No, good sir, I'm on the level.

Grampa nods, satisfied.

WIGGUM

The ring came off my pudding can!

LANLEY

Take my pen knife, my good man.

Lanley tosses Wiggum a pen knife.

WIGGUM

Thanks...

Eddie and Lou roll in a piano and Lanley pounds out the rhythm as the crowd **CHANTS** "Mono-rail."

LANLEY

I swear it's Springfield's only
choice, throw up your hands and raise
your voice.

TOWN

Monorail!

LANLEY

What's it called?

Scene 8
cont.

TOWN

Monorail!

LANLEY

Once again!

ALL

Monorail!

Marge meekly stands.

MARGE

But Main Street's still all cracked
and broken.

BART

Sorry, Mom, the mob has spoken.

Lanley leads the towns people out the door. Bart and Homer
link arms and skip with the crowd.

TOWN

Monorail/ Monorail/ Monorail!

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

Scene 9

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. EMPTY LOT - DAY

Quimby, Lanley, and SEVERAL OFFICIALS pose with shovels before a large crowd.

QUIMBY

I hereby dedicate the Central Station
of the Springfield Monorail.

Each official shovels one load of dirt for the cameras,
puts the shovel down, and shakes hands with the others.

HOMER

(SHOUTING) Hey, get back to work!
Oh, they'll never finish at this
rate.

INT. SIMPSON CAR - MINUTES LATER

The family is riding home from the ground breaking,
bouncing over the potholes of Main Street. Homer and Bart
have resumed the monorail CHANT.

HOMER/BART

Monorail! Monorail! Monorail!

MARGE

I still think we should have spent
the money to fix Main Street.

HOMER

Well, you should have written a song
like that guy.

INT. SPRINGFIELD ELEMENTARY - MISS HOOVER'S CLASS - DAY

MISS HOOVER stands in front of the class with Lyle Lanley.

*Scene 9
cont*

MISS HOOVER

Thank you for coming, Mr. Lanley.

I'm Miss Hoover.

LANLEY

"Miss" Hoover? That is hard to
believe.

MISS HOOVER

(GIGGLES)

LANLEY

Now, I'm here to answer any questions
you children may have about the
monorail.

The kids all raise their hands.

RALPH

Can it outrun The Flash?

LANLEY

You bet.

CHUCK

(RAISING HAND, LISPING) Can Superman
outrun The Flash?

LANLEY

(TAKEN ABACK) Sure, why not? (SEES
LISA) Hello, little girl, wondering
if your dolly can ride the monorail
for free?

*Scene 9
cont*

LISA

(ICY) Hardly. I'd like you to explain why we should build a mass transit system in a small town with a centralized population.

Lanley grins and pushes his hat back.

LANLEY

I'll answer your question if you answer mine: Where did you get those big blue eyes?

LISA

You like my eyes?

LANLEY

Next to your smile, they're the prettiest things I've ever seen.

LISA

(CHARMED) I withdraw my question.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - EVENING

- Scene 10

Homer and Marge are watching TV together. Homer is sipping a beer.

ON TV

A FAT MAN resembling Homer sits on a sofa, sipping a beer.

LANLEY (V.O.)

Are you stuck in a dead-end job?

HOMER (O.S.)

(DEFENSIVE) Maybe.

*Scene 10
cont.*

LANLEY (V.O.)

Are you squandering the precious gift
of life in front of the idiot box?

HOMER (O.S.)

(ANGRIER) What's it to you?

LANLEY (V.O.)

Are you on your third beer of the
evening?

Homer looks at his beer and four empty bottles.

HOMER (O.S.)

(PROUDLY) Try five!

Lanley crosses in front of the Homer look-alike.

LANLEY (V.O.)

Well, maybe it's time you joined the
exciting field of Monorail Conducting
by enrolling at the Lanley Institute.

We see the FAT ACTOR piloting a monorail with a BUSTY WOMAN
on each arm.

FAT GUY (V.O.)

(WOODEN) I was a fat loser, now I'm
a fat winner.

ON HOMER - SMILING BROADLY

HOMER

Marge, I want to be a monorail
conductor.

MARGE

Homer, no...

*Scene 10
Cont.*

HOMER

It's my life-long dream.

MARGE

Your life-long dream was to run out
on the field during a baseball game,
and you did it last year, remember?

Marge points to a framed photo on the wall of Homer running out on a ball field, being chased by a couple of security guards. The headline reads "IDIOT RUINS GAME, SPRINGFIELD FORFEITS PENNANT."

HOMER

(DREAMY) Oh, yeah.

INT. MONORAIL CONDUCTOR CLASS - NIGHT

- Scene 11

Homer sits in a packed classroom. Lanley strides to the front of the room.

LANLEY

Good evening. Before we begin, is
anyone here an investigative
reporter?

A MAN raises his hand.

REPORTER

I am, and she is.

LANLEY

Well, I'd like you to please leave.

REPORTER

Should we take our hidden camera?

LANLEY

Would you?

The reporter leans over to a MAN wearing a turban.

*Scene 11
cont.*

REPORTER

Let's go, Phil.

The man pulls off his turban revealing a camera beneath it -- the lens was the jewel. They exit.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LISA'S BEDROOM

Lisa is reading Maggie a pop-up book titled "MONROE THE MONORAIL" by Lyle Lanley, PhD.

LISA

"...and all the trains laughed at
Monroe. 'Look,' they cried, 'he has
but one rail!'"

Lisa spreads out the book and the scene pops out. Sure enough, some trains are doubled over laughing at a sad little monorail in a blue cap. Maggie's eyes well up.

LISA (CONT'D)

(STARTS SNIFFLING)

MARGE

Oh, Lisa, you're not caught up in
monorail fever, too?

LISA

Hop on the bandwagon, Mom. It's one
hell of a ride.

MARGE

(SIGHS) It's time for bed, Maggie.

Marge tries to pick up Maggie, but Maggie clings to the pop-out "Monroe" in Lisa's hand.

MARGE (CONT'D)

(WEARY) All right, you can sleep
with the monorail.

*Scene 11
cont*

Maggie happily squeezes Monroe and his frown bends into a wicked smile.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

- Scene 12

Homer and Bart are at the dining room table. Bart is reading from a book entitled "MCAT: THE MONORAIL CONDUCTOR APTITUDE TEST."

BART

(READING) "If you smell smoke, you should: (a) stop and investigate, (b) assume the problem will fix itself, or (c) shoot all the passengers, saving one bullet for yourself."

HOMER

Well, I know it's not "c," that's just stupid.

BART

(LOOKING UP ANSWER) You're right, it's "a." Man, you really are going to be a monorail conductor!

HOMER

(NODS) That's right, boy.

BART

You know, I used to think you were stuck in an emasculating, go-nowhere job.

HOMER

Heh-heh. Kids.

*Scene 12
cont*

BART

But now, I want to follow in your
footsteps.

HOMER

(TOUCHED) Do you want to change your
name to Homer Junior?

BART

I'll get back to you.

EXT. MONORAIL CONSTRUCTION SITE - DAY

- *Scene 13*

Homer, Bart, and Lisa sit on a hillside and watch as the monorail is lowered by crane onto the tracks. Barney (the foreman) is guiding it in when he sees Homer and starts to wave.

BARNEY

Hey, Homer!

The monorail is lowered past the track and CRUSHES the roof of a nearby house.

BARNEY (CONT'D)

(EMBARRASSED NOISE)

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

Homer and Marge are in bed. Marge is nervously reading Homer's monorail book.

MARGE

According to this book, the monorail
goes over a hundred and fifty miles
an hour. What if something goes
wrong?

*Scene 13
Cont.*

HOMER

"What if?" What if I'm taking a
shower and I slip on a bar of soap?
(FRIGHTENED) My God, I'd be killed!

MARGE

It frightens me that you quit your
job for something so unsafe.

HOMER

(HEROIC) We monorail conductors are
a crazy breed. Half in love with
death -- gobbling up danger like
ordinary men eat peanuts... Am I
turning you on?

MARGE

No.

HOMER

What if I undo this button?

MARGE

Goodnight, Homer.

HOMER

(DEEP VOICE) What if I talk like
this?

Marge turns off the light. After a beat:

MARGE (V.O.)

Get off me.

Scene 14

INT. MONORAIL CONDUCTOR CLASS

Lanley is concluding a lecture.

LANLEY

...so then, "mono" means "one" and
"rail" means "rail." And that
concludes our intensive three-week
course.

He starts to exit. Otto stands.

OTTO

Hey, wait, man. Who gets to be
conductor?

LANLEY

Oh, right, that. Well, I've been
monitoring your progress closely...

He opens a folder on his desk. We see it contains a travel
brochure and airplane ticket for Tahiti.

LANLEY (CONT'D)

...and you're all super conductors.
But this gentleman here clearly
stands out above the rest.

He gestures vaguely with his hand.

HOMER

Who, me?

LANLEY

(EXITING) Yeah, sure.

HOMER

Woo-hoo!

Scene 14
cont

ON TV

We see KENT BROCKMAN.

KENT BROCKMAN

After an exhaustive search,
Springfield has found its monorail
conductor -- Homer Simpson.

ON TV we see a photo of Homer with a hundred cigarettes
crammed in his mouth. A slug line reads "FILE PHOTO."

KENT BROCKMAN (CONT'D)

It's taken weeks of round-the-clock
effort to get the monorail ready for
its maiden voyage tomorrow.

We see SCOTT CHRISTIAN at the construction site with Barney
and other WORKERS. They are drinking and partying and
SINGING.

SCOTT CHRISTIAN

It must be a real relief to be done.

BARNEY

Oh, we're not done yet. We still
gotta put wheels on this thing.

(BELCH)

INT. MONORAIL COCKPIT - NIGHT

Homer is showing the family the nearly-completed monorail.

HOMER

This is the snack holder where I can
put my beverage -- or, if you will --
cupcake.

Scene 14
cont

BART

Wow, Dad. You really know your
monorails.

MARGE

I'm proud of you, Homer. That
monorail certainly has brought this
town together. I guess I owe Mr.
Lanley an apology.

- Scene 1

INT. LANLEY'S OFFICE - CONSTRUCTION SITE - A LITTLE LATER

Marge stands before Lanley's SECRETARY.

SECRETARY

Mr. Lanley is out having his name
legally changed. He should be back
shortly.

Marge takes a seat. She notices a scrapbook on Lanley's
desk. She picks it up and begins to thumb through it.

MUSIC: OMINOUS

Inside the scrapbook are clippings from Lanley's life:
"Lanley to Build Monorail in North Haverbrook", "Safety
Inspector Questions Monorail", "Safety Inspector Killed in
Mysterious Zoo Accident", and "Lanley to Flee Town Today".
There's a picture of Lanley smiling.

Suddenly, the scrapbook is snatched out of Marge's hands by
a scowling Lanley.

LANLEY

(SUSPICIOUS) How much did you see?
Did you get to page twenty?

MARGE

No.

*Scene 15
cont.*

LANLEY

(RECOVERING) Good. (LYING) There's
a dead bug on it... yeah, a dead bug.

MARGE

(NERVOUS) I should be going.
Goodbye, Mr. Lanley.

LANLEY

The name's Martinez. Julio Martinez.
Marge exits. Lanley looks at the scrapbook.

LANLEY (CONT'D)

I don't know why I leave this lying
around.

-Scene 16

EXT. MONORAIL - CONTINUOUS

Marge heads out of Lanley's office. Homer is showing the
kids the rest of the train.

HOMER

The third car is the snack car. I'm
asking them to move it closer to the
cockpit.

MARGE

(CALLING OUT) I'll be back in a
little while.

She gets into a cab.

CAB DRIVER

(WISE-GUY VOICE) Where to, lady?

MARGE

North Haverbrook.

*Scene 16
cont*

MUSIC: DRAMATIC STING

EXT. NORTH HAVERBROOK - LATER

A faded sign reads: "North Haverbrook -- Where the Monorail is King"

The town is deserted and weather-beaten. Marge's cab pulls up and she exits.

CAB DRIVER

Good luck, lady.

MARGE

Don't you want me to pay you?

CAB DRIVER

No. That green stuff brings only misery.

He drives off. Marge looks around the town. It's eerily quiet. A shutter slowly **BANGS** in the wind. Marge hears **SCARY LAUGHTER** and sees an **OLD WOMAN** rocking on her porch and **CAKCLING INSANELY**.

EXT. CAFE - LATER

Marge is trying to talk to a scared-looking **WAITRESS** through a take-out window.

WAITRESS

Go away! There ain't no monorail and there never was!

She **SLAMS DOWN** a shutter. It reads "Monorail Cafe" in faded letters. Suddenly, a **HAND** grabs Marge's arm and she **SHRIEKS**.

ANGLE ON STRANGER

Scene 17

He's a tall, gaunt Max Von Sydow type. He looks a little crazy.

KOBB

(GERMAN ACCENT) Excuse me, Miss, you asked about the monorail?

*Scen 17
cont*

MARGE

Who are you?

KOBB

My name is Sebastian Kobb. Lanley hired me to build his monorail. He cut corners everywhere and kept the money for himself. Bad wiring, faulty brakes -- and at the launch party, he served that imitation crab. Dammit, it's nothing but pressed pollock! (WAILS) Pressed pollock!

He sinks to his knees.

EXT. EDGE OF TOWN - LATE AFTERNOON

Kobb and Marge are looking at the wreckage of a monorail, hanging limply from a small section of crumbling track. It CREAKS EERILY in the wind.

KOBB

(SOLEMN) This is all that's left of one of the crappiest trains ever built.

MARGE

Mr. Kobb, you've got to come back and help us.

KOBB

No! I just want to live out the rest of my days, here, alone with my birds.

*Scene 17
cont.*

He opens the door to his house. AN ENORMOUS FLOCK OF BIRDS
flies out and disappears beyond the horizon. Kobb thinks
for a beat.

KOBB (CONT'D)

Let's get outta here.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

Scene 18

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. MONORAIL PLATFORM - DAY

EVERYONE IN SPRINGFIELD is jammed on the platform, waving flags and throwing confetti. KENT BROCKMAN stands before a red carpet and announces the different CELEBRITIES as they board the car.

BROCKMAN

Ladies and gentlemen, nothing brings
out the stars like the maiden voyage
of a monorail. Everyone's here, from
recently outed leading man, Dash
Calhoun...

We see a HANDSOME LEADING MAN with a black moustache waving to the crowd.

BROCKMAN (CONT'D)

... to Krusty the Clown!

KRUSTY steps out of his limo. A WOMAN carrying a bundle approaches.

WOMAN WITH BABY

Krusty, why won't you answer my
calls? You've never even seen our
son!

She holds out a BABY that looks a lot like Krusty.

BABY

(KRUSTY-TYPE NOISE)

KRUSTY

The judge said you have to stay 50
feet away from me!

Krusty runs onto the train.

*Scene 18
cont*

ANGLE - KENT BROCKMAN

BROCKMAN

Here's one of those loveable high-
schoolers from TV's Springfield
Heights, 90210. He's cool, he's sexy,
he's thirty-four years old, let's
hear it for Kyle Darren!

A GROWN MAN with sideburns and deep crows feet around his
eyes walks down the carpet. Girls squeal.

BROCKMAN (CONT'D)

And here's country singing sensation,
Lurleen Lumpkin, fresh from her
latest stay at the Betty Ford clinic!

The audience **APPLAUDS** as a bedraggled LURLEEN walks down
the carpet, waving.

BROCKMAN (CONT'D)

What ya been up to Lurleen?

LURLEEN

(DEEP, SCRATCHY VOICE) I spent last
night in a ditch.

KENT BROCKMAN

How about that, folks?

Everyone **APPLAUDS**.

INT. MONORAIL STATION - DAY

- Scene 19

Bart, Lisa and Maggie stand in front of the dressing room
door. Homer emerges wearing a futuristic conductor's
outfit. Homer's nameplate reads "HOMERT".

LISA

I'm proud of you Homert.

Scene 19
cont

HOMER

The "T" is silent.

Patty and Selma walk up and look at Homer in his uniform.

HOMER

How do I look?

PATTY

Like Darth Vader without the helmet.

SELMA

Marge just called. She said stop,
stop, for the love of God don't go.

HOMER

Hmm. I wonder what she was talking
about.

BART

Dad, can I ride in the cockpit with
you?

HOMER

Well, there's not much room up
there... ah, I know, I'll throw out
the fire extinguisher.

BART

I've got the best Dad in the world.

Bart looks at Homer admiringly.

EXT. MONORAIL DAIS - A LITTLE LATER

- Scene 20

Quimby and GEORGE TAKEI are at a podium next to the
monorail.

Scene 20
cont

QUIMBY

Now, I'd like to turn things over to
our grand marshal, Mr. George Takei.

TAKEI

(PATTING MONORAIL) I'd say this baby
could do at least warp five.

Everyone LAUGHS and APPLAUDS.

QUIMBY

(TO TAKEI) And let me say, "May the
force be with you."

The crowd is silent.

TAKEI

(LOOKS ANNOYED) Do you even know who
I am?

QUIMBY

(CAUGHT) I think so. Weren't you
one of the Little Rascals?

EXT. MAIN STREET - A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Lisa stands in the station. She sees Lyle Lanley dragging
two suitcases down the street. Money is sticking out of
the suitcases.

LISA

Mr. Lanley! Aren't you going to ride
the monorail?

LANLEY

Little lady, I'd love to. But I have
to catch a plane.

*Scene 20
cont.*

LISA

But the ride only takes a minute.

LANLEY

(NERVOUS) Yeah, well my plane leaves
in less than one minute.

- Scene 21

EXT. MONORAIL PLATFORM

Lurleen prepares to hit the monorail with a bottle of champagne as Quimby looks on.

QUIMBY

Miss Lumpkin will now christen the
vessel. (WHISPERS) Ever make it on a
choo choo?

LURLEEN

(DEEP VOICE) Face or stomach?

QUIMBY

What?

She **HITS HIM** in the stomach with the champagne bottle, then she **HITS THE MONORAIL**, punching a big hole in the side.

INT. MONORAIL ENGINE - CONTINUOUS

Gears roll off their pins, electrical wiring rips loose, and a hose labelled "Seld-M-Break" **RUPTURES**, sending **STEAM** and **SPARKS** flying.

EXT. MONORAIL PLATFORM - CONTINUOUS

The monorail pulls out. The crowd **CHEERS**. Marge pulls up and runs over with Mr. Kobb.

MARGE

We're too late!

KOBB

I shouldn't have stopped for that
haircut. Sorry.

*Scene 21
cont.*

INT. MONORAIL CABIN - MOMENTS LATER

Everyone's dancing and having a good time. There are pictures on the wall of the Hindenburg, Titanic, etc. George Takei is chatting with a small group.

TAKEI

Actually, the doors on the Enterprise were not mechanical. We had a stagehand on either side who'd pull the door open when he saw you approach.

MAN

(NOT TOO INTERESTED) Uh-huh.

INT. MONORAIL COCKPIT - CONTINUOUS

Homer and Bart are fast friends.

HOMER

Stick your head out the window, boy.

It's the greatest!

Bart sticks his head out the window.

BART

(LIKE A COWBOY) Yee-hawww!

He pulls his head back in. A second later, a girder WHIPS BY the window, unseen by Bart and Homer.

- Scene 22

EXT. WIDE SHOT OF MONORAIL

The crowd APPLAUDS as the train approaches the station. Suddenly, smoke and metal chunks fly out of the engine and it lurches forward at double-speed. A sign on the side reading "SPRINGFIELD MONORAIL" peels off revealing another sign reading "1964 WORLD'S FAIR." The monorail starts rocking noticeably from side to side.

INT. COCKPIT - CONTINUOUS

Homer and Bart are BANGING around.

Scene 22
cont

BART

Can't you stop it, Dad?

HOMER

I'm trying my best.

He frantically pulls a lever several times.

WOMAN (V.O.)

(TELEPHONE OPERATOR VOICE) The lever
you have pulled -- brakes -- is not
in service. Please make a note of it.

HOMER

(MAKING NOTE) No... brakes.

ANGLE - KRUSTY

KRUSTY

(SCREAMING) We're all gonna die!!

Krusty **SMASHES** a window with a chair and tries to leap out,
but DR. HIBBERT gives him an injection.

HIBBERT

Easy, clown, easy.

Krusty starts to **GIGGLE** as the drug takes effect.

EXT. TOWN SQUARE - CONTINUOUS

Flanders is furiously **RINGING** a huge old bell.

ANGLE ON JASPER

JASPER

Oh my God. The old monorail bell.

EXT. HILLTOP - DAY

Burns and Smithers are having a picnic. They look down to
see the racing monorail.

*Scene 22
cont*

SMITHERS

Look, sir, a runaway train.

BURNS

No, Smithers. That's a runaway
monorail. (POINTS) That's a runaway
train.

Burns points in another direction to a runaway train.

EXT. MONORAIL PLATFORM - DAY

- Scene 23

A worried Marge looks at Kobb.

MARGE

How fast are they going?

The train goes by. We hear Homer SCREAM (with the Doppler effect). Kobb times it with a stopwatch.

HOMER

(SCREAM WHICH FADES)

KOBB

Well, judging by your husband's
hideous scream, 180 miles per hour.

INT. COMMAND CENTER

A bunch of GRIM TECHNICIANS wearing headsets watch the monorail whip around the track below them. Quimby enters with bravado.

QUIMBY

All right, I'm in charge here.

WIGGUM

Run along, Quimby. I think they're
dedicating a phone booth somewhere.

Scene 23
cont.

QUIMBY

Listen, you talking tub of donut batter, in an emergency, the mayor calls the shots.

WIGGUM

(POKING HIM) I think that sash is cutting off the air to your brain. The town charter says I run the show.

QUIMBY

We'll just see about that. Let's go to town hall.

WIGGUM

Fine. (SUDDENLY FRIENDLY) Should we take one car, or should I follow you?

INT. HALL OF RECORDS - A HALF HOUR LATER

Wiggum and Quimby are poring over a musty, yellow parchment with old lettering. Every few seconds, we hear **SCREAMING** and the monorail **WHIZZES PAST** the window.

WIGGUM

Hey, according to this charter, as Chief Constable I'm supposed to get a pig every month (READS) "... and two comely lasses of virtue true."

QUIMBY

Keep the pig. How many broads do I get?

Quimby grabs the charter and they yank it back and forth.

*Scene 23
cont.*

WIGGUM

Hey, let go! You're ripping it.

QUIMBY

No, you are.

WIGGUM

No, you are.

QUIMBY

Let go, that's the charter.

They continue to tug, but the old document doesn't break.

INT. MONORAIL COCKPIT - CONTINUOUS

— Scene 24

The train continues to rocket around the track.

BART

Public transportation sure is
dangerous.

HOMER

Always has been, son... always has
been.

INT. COMMAND CENTER

One of the engineers **SNAPS** his fingers.

ENGINEER #1

(BRIGHTENING) Wait a minute, we can
just shut off the power!

ENGINEER #2

No such luck, it's solar powered.

ENGINEER #1

(CONTEMPTUOUS) "Solar" power. When
will people learn?

*Scene 24
cont.*

EXT. SKY - DAY

The moon passes in front of the sun, blotting it out.

INT. MONORAIL - CONTINUOUS

TAKEI

A solar eclipse. (SMILES) The cosmic
ballet goes on.

MAN

(UNCOMFORTABLE) Anyone want to
switch seats?

EXT. MONORAIL - DAY

As the town grows dark, the monorail slows to a halt.
Everyone **CHEERS**.

HOMER

I did it!

EXT. SKY - DAY

The moon moves away from the sun.

EXT. MONORAIL

It **ZOOMS** as fast as before.

HOMER (V.O.)

(ANNOYED GRUNT, WHICH FADES)

INT. AIRPLANE - CONTINUOUS

Lanley is sipping champagne in first class with his
suitcases on his lap. The **CAPTAIN** makes an announcement.

CAPTAIN (O.S.)

This is your captain speaking. Our
nonstop flight to Tahiti will be
making a brief layover in North
Haverbrook.

*Scene 2'
con*

LANLEY

North Haverbrook? Where have I heard
that name before? (REALIZES) Oh, no.
Oh, no!

EXT. NORTH HAVERBROOK - DAY

A MAN points to the plane in the sky.

HAVERBROOK MAN

There he is! Seat 14-F.

EXT. NORTH HAVERBROOK AIRPORT - SECONDS LATER

The plane lands and crazed townspeople, carrying
pitchforks, torches, rope, and an iron maiden, storm the
plane. Comical **BEATING SOUNDS** (including Lanley) ensue.

INT. MONORAIL CABIN

It is speeding faster than ever.

KRUSTY

Krusty wants out!

He opens the door and falls out. George Takei grabs him by
one tuft of his hair.

TAKEI

(CALM) No. The world needs laughter.

He pulls Krusty in.

INT. MONORAIL COCKPIT - CONTINUOUS

HOMER

(QUIET FEAR) Are we gonna die, son?

BART

Yeah, but at least we'll take a lot
of innocent people with us.

Suddenly, Marge's voice comes over the radio.

- Scene 25

Scene 25
cont.

MARGE (V.O.)

Homer? Homer?

Homer gets on the radio.

HOMER

Y'ello.

INT. COMMAND CENTER - CONTINUOUS

Marge is on the radio. Kobb stands beside her.

INTERCUT

MARGE

Homer, there's a man here who thinks
he can help you.

HOMER

(DESPERATE) Batman?

MARGE

No, he's a scientist.

HOMER

Batman's a scientist.

MARGE

It's not Batman!

Kobb gets on the radio.

KOBB

I think I have a way to stop the
train. You need to find an anchor of
some sort.

INT. COCKPIT - CONTINUOUS

Homer looks at Bart.

*Scene 25
cont.*

HOMER'S POV

Bart turns into an anchor.

BART ANCHOR

Think harder, Dad.

BACK TO SCENE

Homer looks thoughtful, then gets an idea.

- Scene 26

MONTAGE

MUSIC: DRIVING VERSION OF "ANCHORS AWEIGH!"

INT. CABIN

A cowboy with a rope sits on a passenger seat. Homer comes up and grabs the rope.

HOMER

I'll take that.

EXT. COCKPIT - A LITTLE LATER

The word "Monorail" is printed on the side in large, raised, metal letters. Homer reaches out the window and pries off the "M."

INT. COCKPIT

Homer tightly ties the end of the rope to the middle of the "M" fashioning a crude anchor.

INT. SNACK CAR - DAY

Homer's got the "M" anchor in his lap. He leisurely eats a burger and drinks a milk shake.

INT. COCKPIT - LATER

Homer throws the "M" anchor out the window and watches the rope uncoil. He dusts his hands, self-satisfied. Bart holds up the other end of the rope which isn't attached to anything.

BART

Uh... Dad?

A panicky Homer quickly ties the other end of the rope to a steel beam in the cockpit.

Scene 26
Cont**EXT. SPRINGFIELD - DAY**

We see the anchor fly out the window. The anchor catches on the ground and is dragged through town. It rips up the pavement as people scatter and cars swerve to get out of its way.

EXT. SPRINGFIELD - GIANT TREE - DAY

A sign reads "SPRINGFIELD'S OLDEST TREE." The anchor tears through it, cutting it down. The tree falls on the birthplace of Jebediah Springfield, which explodes in a ball of flame.

EXT. ANCHOR STORE - DAY

Homer's anchor scrapes past the anchor store. The old SEA CAPTAIN runs out waving his fist.

SEA CAPTAIN

Arrr... ye call that an anchor?

EXT. SPRINGFIELD STREET - DAY

The anchor comes up to a donut shop with a giant donut on the roof. It catches on the donut and holds firm. The monorail SCREECHES to a halt.

INT. MONORAIL COCKPIT - CONTINUOUS

HOMER

(ADMIRINGLY) Donuts. Is there anything they can't do?

BART

Dad, you're a hero!

HOMER

Yes, I'm the best mono-thingy guy there ever was.

EXT. MONORAIL - MOMENTS LATER

Quimby stands before the assembled crowd. Wiggum stands behind him, clutching a pig.

Score 26
cont.

QUIMBY

If only we had known, if only one
among us had not been swept up in
monorail mania and instead suggested
a different course...

Marge throws her purse at Quimby, hitting him squarely in
the face.

QUIMBY (CONT'D)

Ow.

CAMERA PULLS AWAY from the scene of carnage as Marge
narrates.

MARGE (V.O.)

In the years that followed, the
people of Springfield would embark on
other follies... a cable car, a
people mover, a ski-lift kind of
thing... but they never again built a
monorail... in that part of town.

FADE OUT.

THE END